

The background of the entire page is a repeating pattern of musical staves with various notes, clefs, and rests, rendered in a light brown or tan color. The pattern is diagonal, running from the top left towards the bottom right.

The Gramophone Shop, Inc.

Record Supplement

for

June, 1947

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D	Decca	U	Ultraphone
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Vol. X

Record Supplement for June, 1947

No. 6

Store hours are 10 A.M. to 5:30 P.M.
Closed Saturdays during July and August.

ACHRON (JOSEPH)

ACHRON: Hebrew Melody & **SCHUBERT:** Rondo (arr. Friedberg). Jascha Heifetz (violin) & Emanuel Bay (piano). 12" record (2 sides). No. V-11-9572; price \$1.05.

Jascha Heifetz has recently re-recorded many of the encore selections he made during the early days of electric recording. Among these are the familiar "Hebrew Melody" of Joseph Achron and the "Rondo" from Schubert's Piano Sonata No. 10 in D major, Op. 53, as arranged by Friedberg.

The recording is technically excellent with a fine balance between the violin and the piano.

BACH (JOHANN SEBASTIAN)

BACH: Brandenburg Concertos No. 2 in F major & No. 5 in D major. Boston Symphony Orchestra conducted by Serge Koussevitzky. Four 12" records (8 sides) in Set VM-1118†; price complete with album \$5.10.

Not received by our press deadline. To be reviewed in a forthcoming issue.

BACH: Concerto No. 1 in D minor for Clavier & Orchestra. Harriet Cohen (piano) & Philharmonia Orchestra conducted by Walter Süsskind. Three 12" imported records (6 sides), Nos. C-DX1312/4; price \$7.86. (Also available in automatic sequence)

Harriet Cohen's reading of the Bach Concerto No. 1 in D minor compares most favorably with that by Edwin Fischer (VM-252, out of stock). A recent version by Eugene Istomin and the Busch Chamber Players was good, but the newer version is easily superior, both from a recording and an interpretative point of view. At the present time our supply of these excellent imported records is limited.

BACH: Toccata, Adagio and Fugue in C major (arr. Busoni). Alexander Borowsky (piano). Two 12" records (4 sides) in Set VOX-193; price complete with album \$4.05. (Available in automatic sequence only)

Vox has recently issued the 1936 recording by Alexander Borowsky of Busoni's arrangement of Bach's "Toccata, Adagio and Fugue in C major." The recording is fair as is the performance. At the present time there is no version of the work in its original form available. However the Wiener orchestra transcription is still listed in the Columbia catalogue.

BARTOK (BELA)

BARTOK: Concerto for Violin & Orchestra. Yehudi Menuhin (violin) & Dallas Symphony Orchestra conducted by Antal Dorati. Five 12" records (10 sides) in Set VM-1120†; price complete with album \$6.15.

Not received by our press deadline. To be reviewed in a forthcoming issue.

BARTOK: Concerto No. 3 for Piano & Orchestra. Gyorgy Sandor (piano) & Philadelphia Orchestra, conducted by Eugene Ormandy. Three 12" records (6 sides) in Set CM-674†; price complete with album \$4.20.

Bartok's Third Piano Concerto was written during the summer of 1945 just prior to the composer's death on Sept. 26 of that year. As a matter of fact, the last seventeen bars were left incomplete except for sketches in shorthand which the composer's friend, Tibor Serly, deciphered and scored. The notes on the inside of the album cover give Mr. Serly's analysis of the score along with some background material.

This major contemporary score received an excellent performance in the hands of the artists who introduced it at the world premiere on February 8, 1946. The recording is well-balanced and clear, and the soloist and the orchestra have been reproduced in a lifelike manner.

BEETHOVEN (LUDWIG VAN)

BEETHOVEN: Polonaise in C major, Op. 89 & **MENDELSSOHN:** Scherzo a Capriccio in F sharp minor. Edward Kilenyi (piano). 12" record (2 sides), No. C-71968D; price \$1.05.

An interesting record by Edward Kilenyi contains a first domestic recording of Beethoven's Polonaise in C major, Op. 89 and also a first recording (as far as we can trace) of Mendelssohn's Scherzo a Capriccio in F sharp major.

Mr. Kilenyi's sympathetic rendition of these seldom heard selections has been well recorded. An excellent record of music off the beaten track.

BEETHOVEN: Sonata No. 23 in F minor, Op. 57 ("Appassionata"). Nicolas Medtner (piano). Three 12" imported records (6 sides), Nos. G-C3551/3; price \$6.00. (Also available in automatic sequence)

The Russian composer, Nicolas Medtner, may be heard in his version of the "Appassionata" Sonata of Beethoven. His highly individual reading of this popular sonata has been brilliantly recorded. Although the concept of the work differs from most popular versions, it is an interesting one, nonetheless, for it stresses the virtuoso aspects.

The only other recordings by this composer-pianist were some of his own compositions, but these records have not been available for some time.

BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 3 in E flat major, Op. 55 ("Eroica"). London Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Victor De Sabata. Seven 12" imported records (14 sides) in Set D-EDA19; price complete with album \$15.75. (Available at present in automatic sequence only)

Victor De Sabata's highly individual interpretation of the "Eroica" Symphony has been superbly recorded by English Decca. The first two movements are taken quite slowly. The third movement moves more quickly and the finale is generally slower than most recorded performances. As a matter of fact, the second movement is taken so slowly that one's attention may wander. All in all, this performance is a minor disappointment, considering the other excellent recordings by this eminent conductor.

BIZET (GEORGES)

BIZET: Carmen — Air de la Fleur & **MOZART:** Die Zauberflöte — No. 3, Dies Bildnis ist bezaubernd schön. Richard Tauber (tenor in French & German) & Orchestra. 12" imported record (2 sides), No. P-R-20550; price \$2.10.

Richard Tauber's recent recording of two arias, one from the French repertory and the other from Mozart's "Die Zauberflöte" display two different facets of the composer's remarkable voice. His French diction is excellent as is his style. The aria from "Die Zauberflöte" is also beautifully sung. Incidentally, this is a different recording than the one contained on P-PXO1024. Those who were fortunate enough to have seen Tauber as Tamino will cherish this record. It should also serve as a model for many younger singers.

The recording, which favors the voice at the expense of the orchestra, is generally good.

BLITZSTEIN (MARC)

BLITZSTEIN: Symphony "The Airborne" (13 sides) & Dusty Sun (1 side). New York City Symphony Orchestra conducted by Leonard Bernstein with Victor Chorale, Charles Holland (tenor), Walter Scheff (baritone) & Leonard Bernstein (piano). Seven 12" records in Set VM-1117; price complete with album \$8.40.

Not received by our press deadline. To be reviewed in a forthcoming issue.

BOIELDIEU (FRANCOIS)

BOIELDIEU: La Dame Blanche — Overture. Boston "Pops" Orchestra conducted by Arthur Fiedler. 12" record (2 sides), No. V-11-9569; price \$1.05.

Not received by our press deadline. To be reviewed in a forthcoming issue.

BORODIN (ALEXANDER)

BORODIN: On the Steppes of Central Asia. Philharmonia Orchestra conducted by Constant Lambert. 12" record (2 sides), No. C-71956D; price \$1.05.

This atmospheric piece was written in 1880 for the 25th anniversary of the reign of Alexander II, which accounts for the folklike quality of much of the score. It has remained one of the composer's most popular works to the present time.

This sensitive performance by Constant Lambert and the Philharmonia Orchestra has been faithfully reproduced. The recording is being issued in this country before it makes its appearance in England.

BRAHMS (JOHANNES)

BRAHMS: Sonata No. 1 in F minor, Op. 120, No. 1, for Viola & Piano. William Primrose (viola) & William Kapell (piano). Three 12" records (6 sides) in Set VM-1106†; price complete with album \$4.05.

During Brahms' last years he produced some works for the celebrated clarinetist, Richard Mühlfeld. Among them were the two sonatas, Op. 120. Although the sonatas were originally composed for clarinet and piano, optional parts for violin or viola were provided. Needless to say, the differences in these instruments enabled them to lend strikingly varied character to the music.

The present recording with the violinist, William Primrose, and the pianist, William Kapell, represents the first collaboration of these artists. The interpretation is excellent in every way, as is the technical quality of the recording. The present recording easily surpasses an earlier version by Samuel Lifschey and Egon Petri, by virtue of a technically superior performance. No recording of the original version is available at the present time.

BRAHMS: Five Waltzes from Op. 39. Vitya Vronsky & Victor Babin (duo-pianists). 10" record (2 sides), No. C-17407D; price 79¢.

Contents: No. 1, B minor; No. 2, E major; No. 11, B minor; No. 14, G sharp minor; No. 15, A flat major.

Five of Brahms' Waltzes from Op. 39 are performed in a rather nonchalant manner by Vitya Vronsky and Victor Babin. The recording is fair.

BRAHMS: Symphony No. 3 in F major, Op. 90. London Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Edouard Van Beinum. Five 12" imported records (10 sides) in Set D-EDA22; price complete with album \$11.55. (Available at present in automatic sequence only)

A beautifully recorded performance of the Brahms Third Symphony is somewhat marred by the slow tempos of the conductor. Mr. Van Beinum seems to be sympathetic to slow interpretations as is evident by this performance and the recent recording of the Beethoven Leonore Overture No. 2 (D-EDA4).

BUXTEHUDE (DIETRICH)

BUXTEHUDE: Cantata—Befehl dem Engel, dass er komm'. Copenhagen Men and Boys' Choir (in Danish) with Instrumental Quintet (Rahn, E. Bloch, Krassow, T. A. Svendsen, Hegner, Jr.) with Finn Videre (organ) directed by Mogens Wöldike. 12" imported record (2 sides), No. C-DDX10; price \$2.62.

Although this record was once listed on domestic Columbia it has not been available for some time. We have received a limited supply of this beautiful cantata which is labelled "Sind hin din Engel." The performance is stirring and the recording is particularly lovely.

BUXTEHUDE: Sonata in C major, for Two Violins & Continuo. Else Marie Bruun & Julius Koppel (violins), Alberto Medici ('cello) & Mogens Wöldike (harpsichord). 12" imported record (2 sides), No. G-DB5249; price \$2.62.

Danish HMV has recorded several works by Buxtehude in recent years and among the most notable is this Sonata for Two Violins and Continuo which is performed by Else Marie Bruun and Julius Koppel with Alberto Medici ('cello) and Mogens Wöldike (harpsichord) providing the continuo. This sonata has been magnificently performed and recorded with much realism by these artists. An enthusiastically recommended recording of music by one of the musical giants of the age preceding Bach.

BUXTEHUDE: Prelude and Fugue in G minor (Spitta No. 14). Finn Videre (Christianborg Castle Church Organ). 12" imported record (2 sides), No. G-DB5248; price \$2.62.

We are fortunate to have received a limited supply of a magnificent organ record played by Finn Videre. The Prelude and Fugue in G minor by Buxtehude was recorded many years ago by Alfred Sittard, but that record has not been available for some time. Therefore the present record has no challengers, for it is recorded in a most lifelike manner. The organ is a difficult instrument to record, but the engineers seem to have solved the problem very efficiently with the present release. This compares most favorably with Mr. Videre's earlier records.

CHOPIN (FRANCOIS-FREDERIC)

CHOPIN: Les Sylphides—Ballet Suite (arr. Bodge). Boston "Pops" Orchestra conducted by Arthur Fiedler. Three 12" records (6 sides) in Set VM-1119†; price complete with album \$4.05.

Not received by our press deadline. To be reviewed in a forthcoming issue.

CHOPIN: Polonaise No. 6 in A flat major, Op. 53 ("Heroic"). First Piano Quartet. 12" record (2 sides), No. V-46-0005; price \$1.05.

An arrangement for four pianos of Chopin's popular Polonaise. The popular radio quartet has been efficiently recorded.

COPLAND (AARON)

COPLAND: *Danzón Cubano*. Aaron Copland & Leo Smit (duo-pianists). 12" record (2 sides), No. CONCERT HALL-AL; price \$2.10.

Aaron Copland's *Danzón Cubano* dates from 1942. It was first performed at a League of Composers Concert by the composer with Leonard Bernstein. It was an instantaneous success.

Its two short connected movements have been well recorded on a single 12" vinylite record. Notes by Edward Tatnall Canby are contained on the envelope which comes with the record.

DEBUSSY (CLAUDE)

DEBUSSY: *La Plus que lente—Valse* (arr. Leon Roques) & **SCHUBERT:** *Ave Maria* (arr. Wilhelmj). Jascha Heifetz (violin) & Emanuel Bay (piano). 12" record (2 sides), No. V-11-9571; price \$1.05.

Two familiar encore selections beautifully performed by Jascha Heifetz. Recording is very good.

DEBUSSY: *La Plus que lente—Valse & Jardins sous la pluie* (Estampes No. 3). Marguerite Long (piano). 12" imported record (2 sides), No. C-LFX24; price \$2.62.

We have received a limited supply of Marguerite Long's interpretations of two popular Debussy selections. Although the recordings are not new, they are more than merely serviceable.

DELIUS (FREDERICK)

DELIUS: *Concerto for Violin & Orchestra*. Jean Pougnet (violin) & Royal Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham (5 sides) & *Irmelin—Prelude*. Royal Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham (1 side). Three 12" imported records, Nos. G-DB6369/71; price \$7.86. (Also available in automatic sequence).

Delius' Violin Concerto has been recorded once again, this time by Jean Pougnet and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham. The newer recording (an earlier version was reviewed in last month's supplement) was made under the auspices of the Delius Trust. The violinist in the present set is an excellent choice and the recording is especially praiseworthy. Somewhat brisker tempi than those used by Malcolm Sargent (in CM-671) permit the work to fit on five sides.

The Prelude to "Irmelin" occupies the last side of the recording.

The present recording is a model of the finest English recording.

DELIUS: *The Walk to the Paradise Garden* (from "A Village Romeo and Juliet") (arr. Beecham). Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra conducted by Eugene Goossens. 12" record (2 sides), No. V-11-9493; price \$1.05.

Eugene Goossens gives a completely sympathetic reading of the magical Intermezzo "The Walk to the Paradise Garden" from Delius' opera "A Village Romeo and Juliet." The present recording is superior to an older version by Sir Thomas Beecham (in CX-31, out of stock).

DUKAS (PAUL)

DUKAS: *L'Apprenti Sorcier* (3 sides) & **DEBUSSY:** *La Damselle Elue—Prelude* (1 side). National Symphony Orchestra conducted by Enrique Jorda. Two 12" imported records in Set D-EDA16; price complete with album \$5.25. (Available at present in automatic sequence only)

One of the most realistic of the English Decca FFRR recordings is this truly remarkable rendition of Dukas' "The Sorcerer's Apprentice." Here for the first time is an ideal performance of this elusive work which has been recorded satisfactorily. Many details in the score may be heard which are often glossed over by most conductors. Seldom has an orchestra sounded as realistic as the National Symphony in the present set. On the final side is a lovely performance of the Prelude to Debussy's "La Damselle Elue."

DVORAK (ANTONIN)

DVORAK: *Symphony No. 3 in F major, Op. 76* (9 sides) & **GLINKA:** *Ruslan and Ludmilla—Overture* (1 side). City of Birmingham Orchestra conducted by George Weldon. Five 12" imported records, Nos. C-DX1315/9; price \$13.10. (Also available in automatic sequence).

The numbering of Dvorak's Symphonies has been a source of considerable confusion with regard to the order in which they were composed and the numbering. The Symphony No. 3 is actually the fifth in order of composition being composed in 1875, although it was not published until many years later. Originally listed as Op. 24, it is now known as Op. 76. It is difficult to say what has caused conductors to neglect this work, for it contains many forceful ideas and there is much that is outstanding. There is a certain kinship with Schubert and Mendelssohn in many sections, but Dvorak's own national feeling is uppermost throughout. The orchestration is full of those delightful details so characteristic of the Czech composer. The dedication is to the great conductor Hans von Bülow.

The present performance fills a gap in the recorded Dvorak repertory. Until the present release, only the Third Symphony was unrecorded. Now all of the major five are available in recorded form. Although the other recordings (with the exception of the "New World" Symphony) were recorded exclusively by the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra, the present set is a worthy companion to those fine recordings. Especially noteworthy in the present recording is the exceptional playing of the woodwinds of the City of Birmingham Orchestra. The recording is spacious and well balanced.

A vigorous rendition of the Overture to Glinka's "Russlan and Ludmilla" occupies the last side.

FALLA (MANUEL DE)

FALLA: *Noches en los Jardines de España*. Clifford Curzon (piano) & National Symphony Orchestra conducted by Enrique Jorda. Three 12" imported records (6 sides) in Set D-EDA10; price complete with album \$7.35. (Available in automatic sequence only)

Manuel de Falla's three nocturnes for piano and orchestra called "Nights in the Gardens of Spain" were composed in 1916. The sections are entitled: *En el Generalife*; *Danza lejana*; *En los jardines de la Sierra de Córdoba*. The present performance is superior to both the existing recordings by virtue of superior Decca FFRR recording and the spirit and imagination of the conductor. The efficient soloist is Clifford Curzon. Neither of the earlier recordings is available at the present time.

FRANCK (CESAR)

FRANCK: *Le Chasseur Maudit*. London Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Franz André. Two 12" imported records (4 sides) in Set D-EDA20; price complete with album \$5.25. (Available in automatic sequence only)

Cesar Franck chose for the subject of this tone poem, the ballad of the German poet Gottfried August Bürger, describing the fall of the wicked Count of the Rhine. There are four sections to the work. There is first portrayed the serene Sunday morning, the ringing of bells and the religious chant of the crowd. The Count sounds his horn and the hunt is under way. Suddenly the count is left alone. He attempts to sound his horn. Then the curse is pronounced. The infernal chase begins. There are wild horn calls. The pace grows more and more precipitate until the close. Despite the somewhat conventional means of expressing terror the work is generally successful. However, the listener does not feel too much concern for the wicked Count who goes hunting when he should be in church.

The present recording is very realistic, with the wild horn calls and the flashy orchestration being vividly reproduced. The conductor is extremely sympathetic to the score.

GERMAN (SIR EDWARD)

GERMAN: *Henry VIII — Three Dances*. BBC Theatre Orchestra conducted by Stanford Robinson. 12" imported record (2 sides), No. D-K1356; price \$2.10.

There has long been a need for an up-to-date recording of these popular dances by Sir Edward German. The present version is not likely to be surpassed for some time. The sections are entitled: *Shepherds' Dance*; *Morris Dance*; *Torch Dance*.

GERSHWIN (GEORGE)

GERSHWIN: *Rhapsody in Blue*. Earl Wild (piano) with Paul Whiteman and his Orchestra and Chorus. Two 12" records (4 sides) in Set SIGNATURE-GPI; price complete with album \$2.99. (Available in automatic sequence only)

Paul Whiteman conducts the full length score of the celebrated "Rhapsody in Blue" with Earl Wild as soloist. This excellent performance is somewhat marred by the introduction of a chorus, which was not in the original score. The recording as such is very good, and Mr. Wild gives an efficient delineation of the difficult piano part.

GRIEG (EDVARD)

GRIEG: *Album Leaf, Op. 28, No. 3* (arr. Hartmann & SCHUMANN: *Träumerei, Op. 15, No. 7* (arr. Hüllweck). Mischa Elman (violin) & Leopold Mittman (piano). 10" record (2 sides), No. V-10-1271; price 79¢.

Mischa Elman plays two encore selections which have been moderately well recorded.

HALEVY (JACQUES)

HALEVY: *La Juive — Rachel quand du Seigneur* & **LALO:** *Le Roi d'Ys — Vainement, ma bien aimée* (Aubade). Beniamino Gigli (tenor in French) & Royal Opera House Orchestra, Covent Garden, conducted by Rainaldo Zamboni. 12" imported record (2 sides), No. G-DB6366; price \$2.62.

Two recent recordings by Beniamino Gigli show that voice relatively unimpaired. Only the Caruso record (V-15-1004) is available for comparison, and the present version is infinitely better recorded. Gigli uses his voice in a more musicianly manner than he did prior to the war and the result is most gratifying. The Lalo aria is likewise beautifully sung. The brief choral parts are omitted. The spacious recording benefits from the idiomatic accompaniments of Rainaldo Zamboni.

HANDEL (GEORGE FREDERICK)

HANDEL: Twelve Concerti Grossi, Op. 6 — Complete recording. Busch Chamber Players conducted by Adolf Busch (49 sides) & GEMINIANI: Sonata in C minor for Violin & Cembalo (arr. Busch). Adolf Busch (violin) & Artur Balsam (piano), (1 side). Twenty-five 12" records in Set CM-685†; price complete with three albums \$29.93. (Available as a complete set only)

This set will not be available until the end of June, but it is being announced for the benefit of those who wish to place advance orders. To be reviewed in a forthcoming issue.

HUMPERDINCK (ENGELBERT)

HUMPERDINCK: Hansel und Gretel — Overture. London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Clarence Raybould. 12" imported record (2 sides), No. D-K1315; price \$2.10.

The present disc contains a spirited and clearly recorded version of the overture to Humperdinck's favorite opera "Hansel and Gretel."

JANNEQUIN (CLAUDE)

JANNEQUIN: Le Chant des Oiseaux. Le Chantier de la Renaissance (unaccompanied chorus in French) directed by Henry Expert. 12" record (2 sides), No. AS-6; price \$2.00.

We have just received a limited supply of a record from the first volume of L'Anthologie Sonore. Little is known of Claude Jannequin, the founder of the new French "chanson" of the sixteenth century. However, the present record contains a delightful example of his work. This is the only record of this composition available at the present time, since the rather inferior performance by the Madrigal Singers has been withdrawn. This charming composition is enthusiastically recommended.

MENDELSSOHN (FELIX)

MENDELSSOHN: Concerto in E minor, Op. 64, for Violin & Orchestra. Ida Haendel (violin) & National Symphony Orchestra conducted by Malcolm Sargent (7 sides) & Midsummer Night's Dream — Wedding March. London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Anatole Fistoulari (1 side). Four 12" imported records in Set D-EDA23; price complete with album \$9.45. (Available in automatic sequence only)

There are numerous recordings of Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto listed in current catalogues, but none are in stock at the present time except this new and excellent version by Ida Haendel. The sumptuous recording and the brilliant tone of the soloist combine to make a most welcome release. Needless to say, the FRR recording technique was used.

MENDELSSOHN: Symphony No. 5 in D minor, Op. 107 ("Reformation") (7 sides) & **MOZART:** La Clemenza di Tito — Overture (1 side). London Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham. Four 12" records in Set VM-1104†; price complete with album \$5.10.

Sir Thomas Beecham's traversal of the "Reformation" Symphony of Mendelssohn is indeed a revealing one. An earlier recording by the CBS Orchestra under the direction of Howard Barlow is easily surpassed by the newer recording. Seldom has the London Philharmonic played better than it does in the second movement. This recording is being released in the United States before it is issued in England. On the last side there is a performance of the Overture to Mozart's "La Clemenza di Tito." An earlier recording by Bruno Walter has been discontinued. A thoroughly enjoyable set.

MENOTTI (GIAN-CARLO)

MENOTTI: Sebastian — Ballet Suite. Robin Hood Dell Symphony Orchestra conducted by Dmitri Mitropoulos. Two 12" records (4 sides) in Set CX-278†; price complete with album \$3.15.

Gian-Carlo Menotti's ballet "Sebastian" was originally performed by the Ballet International and later by the Original Ballet Russe. The composer arranged a suite from the melodious score of the ballet. Mr. Mitropoulos performs the six sections which are entitled: Introduction, Barcarolle, Street Fight, Cortege, Sebastian's Dance, Pavane. The orchestra has been brilliantly recorded.

MONTEVERDI (CLAUDIO)

MONTEVERDI: Arianna — Lasciatemi morire (Lamento di Arianna). Gabriella Gatti (soprano in Italian) & Eiar Symphony Orchestra conducted by A. Simonetti. 12" imported record (2 sides), No. CET-BB25087; price \$3.25.

Monteverdi's opera "Arianna" was first performed on May 28, 1608 in a vast theatre of the castle of Mantua. Of the opera, only the text and the music to Scene VI survive. It is this music that Mme. Gatti sings. Ariadne, forsaken by her lover, Theseus, laments her fate. The composer published the aria separately and also arranged it as a five part madrigal. In addition, he adapted it to a sacred text.

Mme. Gatti gives a profoundly moving interpretation of this poignant score. The recording is excellent throughout.

MOZART (WOLFGANG AMADEUS)

MOZART: *Così fan tutte* — No. 25, *Per pietà* ben mio. Joan Cross (soprano in English) & Philharmonia Orchestra conducted by Lawrence Collingwood. 12" imported record (2 sides), No. C-DX1353; price \$2.62.

Fiordiligi's great aria and rondo from the second act of "*Così fan tutte*" is sung in an excellent English translation by Joan Cross. Miss Cross possesses a big voice which is used with intelligence and style. The result is a very pleasing record. The balance between the orchestra and the voice is good throughout. This is the only isolated record of this aria available at the present time. It might be pointed out that this is the aria Beethoven used for the model of Leonore's big aria in "*Fidelio*."

MOZART: *Adagio and Rondo for Glass Harmonica*, K. 617. E. Power Biggs (celesta), Phillip Kaplan (flute), Louis Speyer (oboe), Emil Korrsand (viola), Josef Zimmler ('cello). 12" record (2 sides), No. V-11-9570; price \$1.05.

This interesting item has not been received by our press deadline. To be reviewed in a forthcoming issue.

OFFENBACH (JACQUES)

OFFENBACH: *Les Contes d'Hoffmann* — *Barcarolle & Romance of Antonia*. Jarmilla Novotna (soprano in French) & Victor Orchestra conducted by Frieder Weissmann. 12" record (2 sides), No. V-11-9263; price \$1.05.

Mme. Novotna rendition of Antonia's Romance "*Elle a fui, la tourterelle*" is moving, but the *Barcarolle*, sung here as a solo, is rhythmically distorted and rather poorly phrased. The recording is well contrived however.

PONCIELLI (AMILCARE)

PONCHIELLI: *La Gioconda* — *Stella del mar & MASSENET: Werther* — *Letter Aria*. Cloe Elmo (mezzo-soprano in Italian) & EIAR Symphony Orchestra conducted by Ugo Tansini. 12" imported record (2 sides), No. CET-BB25009; price \$3.25.

Cloe Elmo's is one of the most thrilling voices to come out of Italy since the war. She may be heard to advantage in the *Letter Aria* from "*Werther*" and *Laura's Aria* from "*La Gioconda*." The spacious recording is very realistic.

POULENC (FRANCIS)

POULENC: *Aubade* — *Concerto chorégraphique pour piano et 18 instruments*. Francis Poulenc (piano) & Orchestra of the Concerts Straram conducted by Walther Straram. Three 10" imported records (6 sides), Nos. C-LF33/5; price \$6.30. (Available in manual sequence only).

We just received a limited supply of Poulenc's "*Aubade*." This recording once available on domestic surfaces, has not been been available for some time. The recording is still more than merely serviceable.

PURCELL (HENRY)

PURCELL: *Abdelazar or The Moor's Revenge* — *Orchestral Suite*. Vox Chamber Orchestra conducted by Edvard Fendler. Three 10" records (6 sides) in Set VOX-199; price complete with album \$3.93. (Available in automatic sequence only).

Purcell's music for "*Abdelazar*" was written for the 1695 revival of the play by Mrs. Aphra Behn (originally produced in 1677). The selections include: *Overture*, *Rondeau*, *Air I*, *Air II*, *Minuet*, *Air III*, *Jig*, *Hornpipe*, *Air IV*. All the orchestral music is contained in this recording. An aria "*Lucinda is bewitching fair*" is not included, for it requires a voice. Mr. Fendler and Vox are to be commended for recording this important score. The recording is excellent throughout. Incidentally, the *Air No. 3* (in G minor) was used by Mr. Barbirolli in his *Suite for Strings* (VM-533).

RACHMANINOFF (SERGEI)

RACHMANINOFF: *Prelude in C sharp minor*, Op. 3, No. 2 & *PADEREWSKI: Minuet in G major*, Op. 14, No. 1. Jose Iturbi (piano). 12" record (2 sides), No. V-11-9514; price \$1.05.

Jose Iturbi's performances of these two favorites have been effectively recorded.

RAVEL (MAURICE)

RAVEL: *Introduction and Allegro for Harp*, with *String Quartet*, *Flute and Clarinet*. John Cocke-rill (harp), Jean Pougnet & David Martin (violins), Frederick Riddle (viola), James Whitehead ('cello), Arthur Cleghorn (flute), Reginald Kell (clarinet) (3 sides) & *DEBUSSY: Première Arabesque*. John Cocke-rill (harp) (1 side). Two 12" imported records, Nos. C-DX1310/1; price \$5.24.

This is easily the best recorded version of this delightful work of Ravel, as well as being the most idiomatic interpretation. The two domestic sets are well recorded, but are hardly in the same class as this exquisite version. The instrumentalists are all well known musicians, who have blended their talents to achieve a first-rate chamber performance. On the last side, Mr. Cockerill plays a finely modulated version of the Debussy Arabesque.

RAVEL: Ma Mere l'Oye (Mother Goose Suite). Lamoureux Orchestra conducted by Albert Wolff.

Two 12" records (4 sides) in Set VOX-194; price \$4.05. (Available in automatic sequence only).

A rather ancient, though imaginative performance of Ravel's "Mother Goose Suite" is re-issued in this Vox album. The titles of the various sections are: *Pavane de la Belle au Bois Dormant; Petit Poucet; Laideronnette, Impératrice des Pagodes; Les entrétiens de la Belle et la Bête; Le jardin féerique.* There is still room for a modern recording of this lovely score.

RAVEL: Ondine (No. 1 from "Gaspard de la Nuit"). Alexander Brailowsky (piano). 12" record (2 sides), No. V-11-9260; price \$1.05.

An imaginative and technically satisfying performance by Alexander Brailowsky has been recorded with utmost skill. If memories of the Giese-king performance are not entirely erased, the newer recording has the edge.

RESPIGHI (OTTORINO)

RESPIGHI: Antiche Danze ed Arie per Liuto — Suite No. 1. EIAR Symphony Orchestra conducted by Sergio Failoni. Two 12" imported records (4 sides), Nos. CET-BB25017/8; price \$6.50.

We have received a complete recording of the Suite No. 1 of "Ancient Dances and Arie for Lute" as arranged by Ottorino Respighi from compositions of composers of the sixteenth century. The selections included are: *Balletto detto "Il Conte Orlando"* (after Simone Molinaro, 1599); *Gagliarda* (after Vincenzo Galilei, 1522); *Villanella* (after an anonymous 16th century composer); *Passo mezzo e Mascherada* (after an anonymous 16th century composer).

The second and third sections were once recorded many years ago on Decca, but those inferior recordings have been withdrawn. Sergio Failoni's feeling for the score is unmistakable and the recording is excellent.

SAINT-SAENS (CAMILLE)

SAINT-SAENS: Caprice on the Airs de Ballet from the opera "Alceste" by Gluck. Guiomar Novaes (piano). 12" records (2 sides), No. C-71961D; price \$1.05.

Guiomar Novaes' most recent recording is the Saint-Saens "Caprice on Aairs de Ballet from Gluck's "Alceste" as edited by Carl Deis. An earlier version by Harold Bauer has been withdrawn for many years. Mme. Novaes has received excellent recording, and the performance deserves nothing but praise.

SCHUBERT (FRANZ)

SCHUBERT: Quartet No. 13 in A minor, Op. 29. Philharmonia String Quartet. Four 12" imported records (8 sides), Nos. C-DX1349/52; price \$10.48. (Also available in automatic sequence)

There have been some changes in the personnel of Philharmonia Quartet. Henry Holst, Ernest Element, Herbert Downes and Anthony Pini are the present members. The changes do not seem to have effected the quality of the playing, for there have seldom been performances to match the present one.

This was the only quartet published during Schubert's lifetime. It is also one of his greatest. The serene second movement uses the theme which appears in the ballet music for "Rosamunde" and also in one of the Impromptus. The work was written during a period of depression as a result of his fatal illness. It has long needed adequate recording, for the existing version, by the Budapest Quartet, is several years old. The present version definitely fills the gap, for the recording is among the finest of contemporary chamber music performances.

SCHUBERT: Symphony No. 9 in C major (Old B. & H. No. 7). Philharmonic-Symphony Orchestra of New York conducted by Bruno Walter. Six 12" records (12 sides), in Set CM-679†; price complete with album \$7.35.

Neither of the existing versions of the Schubert "Great" C major Symphony are completely satisfying from the point of view of recording. The present version is excellent as a recording and the performance is one of Bruno Walter's finest interpretations. The newer recording is generally more vital than the earlier Victor recording, plus the advantage of the fine orchestra at his disposal. All in all, this is the best version to be obtained today.

SHOSTAKOVICH (DMITRI)

SHOSTAKOVICH: Symphony No. 9, Op. 70. Philharmonic-Symphony Orchestra of New York conducted by Efreim Kurtz. Four 12" records (8 sides) in Set CM-688†; price complete with album \$5.25.

Not received by our press deadline. To be reviewed in a forthcoming issue.

STRAVINSKY (IGOR)

STRAVINSKY: Symphony in Three Movements. Philharmonic-Symphony Orchestra of New York conducted by Igor Stravinsky. Three 12" records (6 sides), in Set CM-680†; price complete with album \$4.20.

Stravinsky composed his Symphony in Three Movements at his home in Hollywood, California, in 1945 especially for the Philharmonic-Symphony Orchestra of New York, and conducted that orchestra in the world premiere of the work on Jan. 24, 1946. This is the composer's third real symphony, if one is to exclude his "Symphonie des Psaumes" and Symphonies for Wind Instruments. It was preceded by an early Symphony (1907) and the more recent Symphony in C major (1940).

The first movement is marked "Overture" (Allegro) and is quite reminiscent of "Le Sacre du Printemps" and other works of the same period. It is a complex movement with an intense rhythmic drive. A lyric "Andante" is followed by the finale, marked "Con Moto."

This authentic performance conducted by the composer has been recorded with great fidelity. This set should take its place along side other recent recordings by this remarkable composer.

TCHAIKOVSKY (PETER ILYCH)

TCHAIKOVSKY: Eugene Oniegin — "Complete" recording. Sung in Russian. Soloists, Chorus & Orchestras of the USSR conducted by A. Sh. Mehlik-Pashayev & Prof. A. I. Orloff. Seventeen 12" records (34 sides) in Set DISC-755; price complete with two albums \$28.56. (Available in automatic sequence only)

The cast is as follows:

Oniegin.....	P. M. Norzoff (B)
Tatiana.....	E. D. Kurglikova (S)
Olga.....	E. I. Antonova (Ms)
Lenski.....	I. S. Kozlovsky (T)
Prince Gremin....	M. D. Mihailoff (Bs)
and others.	

There are several cuts in this large set. The nature of the cuts leads one to suspect that there was more to the recording than was pressed in this country, for most of the missing material is missing from between the various sides. The most important omission is the beginning of Tatiana's "Letter" Scene. In any event, a very substantial portion of the score is now available. Of 276 pages of the score, some 57 are omitted.

The soloists are of varying quality. The best are Mme. Antonova & the bass, Mihailoff. The soprano has a pleasant voice, but it is rather light for the essentially dramatic role of Tatiana. The other soloists are better than adequate. The recording is by no means new and the orchestras sound a bit weak. Yet with all the disadvantages, the set may be recommended as the only large recording of a Tchaikovsky opera. It is doubtful whether this will be recorded again in the near future, so we have to be content with the present set.

THOMSON (VIRGIL)

THOMSON: The Plow That Broke the Plains — Suite. Hollywood Bowl Symphony Orchestra conducted by Leopold Stokowski. Two 12" records (4 sides) in Set VM-1116†; price complete with album \$3.00.

Not received by our press deadline. To be reviewed in a forthcoming issue.

VERDI (GIUSEPPE)

VERDI: La Traviata — "Complete" recording. Soloists, Chorus & Orchestra of the Rome Opera House conducted by Vincenzo Bellezza. (Sung in Italian). Fifteen 12" imported records (30 sides), Nos. C-DX1324/38; price \$39.30. (Also available in automatic sequence)

The cast for this impressive recording is as follows:

Violetta	Adrianna Guerrini (S)
Flora }	Maria Huder (Ms)
Annina }	
Alfredo	Luigi Infantino (T)
Germont	Paolo Silveri (B)
Gaston	Adelio Zagonara (T)
Dottore Grenvil	Gino Conti (Bs)
Barone Douphol	Paolo Rakowsky (B)
Marchese d'Obigny....	Carlo Patania (Bs)
Giuseppe	Blando Giusti (T)

The outstanding feature of this recording is the soprano, Adrianna Guerinni, who possesses a remarkable voice of great power and color. Her tones are even throughout the scales and she has a fine sense of drama. The tenor is the weakest member of the cast. He has been heard in opera in New York, and the recording confirms the impression of several performances. The voice is essentially a good one, but there is little style or musicianship present. The baritone is generally fine throughout the second act. The minor roles are all well sung. The conductor, Vincenzo Bellezza, is familiar through his numerous recordings made prior to the war. As a whole, the recording is impressive. The acoustics are excellent (the Rome Opera House was used) and the orchestra is large and well-trained. This large set is the first complete operatic recording made in Italy since the war.

WALTON (WILLIAM)

WALTON: Henry V — Selections. Lawrence Olivier (narrator) & Philharmonia Orchestra & Chorus conducted by William Walton. Four 12" records (8 sides) in Set VM-1128†; price complete with album \$5.25.

This set drawn from the film version of Shakespeare's "Henry V" has not been received by our press deadline. To be reviewed in a forthcoming issue.

WEILL (KURT)

WEILL: Street Scene — Selections. Anne Jeffreys, Polyna Stoska & Brian Sullivan with other members of the original New York Cast with Orchestra and Chorus conducted by Maurice Abraham. Six 12" records (12 sides) in Set CM-683†; price complete with album \$7.35.

Contents: Prelude; Moon-Faced, Starry-Eyed; Ain't it awful, the heat; I Got a Marble and a Star; Gossip; When a Woman Has a Baby; Wrapped in a Ribbon and Tied in a Bow; Lonely House; Wouldn't You Like to Be on Broadway; Remember that I Care; Morning; Children's Game; A Boy Like You; We'll Go Away Together; The Woman Who Lived Up There; Lullaby; I Loved Her Too; Farewell Duet.

A very large portion of the score to this powerful drama is included in this set. The voices are all excellent as is the recording.

COLLECTIONS

OPERATIC ARIAS. Lina Pagliughi (soprano in Italian) & Elar Symphony Orchestra conducted by Armando La Rosa Parodi & Ugo Tansini. Four 12" imported records (8 sides) in Set CET-9; price complete with album \$14.00.

Contents: ROSSINI: Semiramide — Bel raggio; BIZET: Carmen — Micaela's Aria; MOZART: Il Seraglio — No. 6, Ah, che amando & No. 12, O che gioia; VERDI: Falstaff — Sul fin d'un soffio etesio; GIORDANO: Il Re — O Colombello sposarti; GOMEZ: Il Guarany — Ballata — O come è bello il ciel.

We have received a supply of an album of Lina Pagliughi's operatic recordings made during the war. They display one of the most remarkable voices recording today. A wide selection is presented in this album, ranging from the florid "Semiramide" aria to the lyric "Carmen" aria. The recordings are all excellent. There is a great need for singers like this in our lyric theatres. The conductors are also men who are not merely "pit" conductors, like many of the leaders on records made in this country. There can be only words of praise for this fine album.

OPERATIC ARIAS. Ebe Stignani (mezzo-soprano in Italian) & Elar Symphony Orchestra conducted by Ugo Tansini. Three 12" imported records (6 sides), in Set CET-8; price complete with album \$10.75.

Contents: BELLINI: Norma — Casta Diva & Ah bella a me ritorno (with chorus); VERDI: Il Trovatore — Condotta ell'era in ceppi (with Nino Conti — tenor); ROSSINI: Il Barbiere di Siviglia — Una voce poco fa; THOMAS: Mignon — Connais-tu le pays; MASCAGNI: L'Amico Fritz — Romanze di Beppe.

Ebe Stignani, one of Italy's greatest mezzo-sopranos, sings several arias for mezzo-soprano and also two arias usually associated with coloratura and dramatic sopranos. One has but to hear the "Casta Diva" to be convinced of the unusual quality of Mme. Stignani's voice. The aria from the "Barber of Seville" is also stunningly sung. Of no less interest is the thrilling "Trovatore" aria. All in all, this set is one of the finest operatic collections available today. There is certainly room for a voice such as this on our operatic stages. The recordings are all resonant and clear.

ROBERT MERRILL

Victor has released several records by Robert Merrill which are in the semi-popular category. They are all well recorded. They include:

VERNOR: The Sweetheart of Sigma Chi & GALLO-WAY: The Wiffenpoof Song. With Orchestra & Chorus. 10" record (2 sides), No. V-10-1313; price 79¢.

MacGIMSEY: To My Mother & Sweet Little Jesus. With Orchestra. 10" record (2 sides), No. V-10-1303; price 79¢.

GUION: Home on the Range & HILL: The Last Round Up. With Orchestra. 10" records (2 sides), No. V-10-1273; price 79¢.

IMPORTED RECORDS

BACH: Prelude and Fugue in E minor — Prelude only & VIVALDI-BACH: Concerto in D minor — Allegro. Alfred Sittard (organ of St. Michael's Hamburg). 12" imported record (2 sides), No. PD-66553; price \$2.00.

BIZET: Carmen — Abridged recording — Sung in French. Mmes. Brohly, Corney, Lebard, Bernadet, Mm. Saint-Crique, Beckmans, Chorus of Opéra-Comique, Symphony Orchestra conducted by Albert Wolff. Five 12" imported records (10 sides), Nos. PD-560033/7; price \$10.00. (Manual sequence only)

DONIZETTI: La Figlia dell' Reggimento — Convien partir & BELLINI: La Sonnambula — Ah non credea mirarti. Lina Pagliughi (soprano in Italian) & EIAR Symphony Orchestra. 12" imported record (2 sides), No. P-DPX18; price \$2.10.

DONIZETTI: Linda di Chamounix — Romanza di Pierotto & SAINT-SAENS: Samson et Dalila — Amour, viens aider. Ebe Stignani (mezzo-soprano in Italian) & EIAR Orchestra. 12" imported record (2 sides), No. P-DPX23; price \$2.10.

GOUNOD: Faust — Abridged recording. Sung in French. Mmes. Martinelli, Lemichel du Roi, Mm. Lepelletrie, Beckmans, Cambon, Chorus of Opéra-Comique, Symphony Orchestra conducted by Albert Wolff. Five 12" imported records (10 sides), Nos. PD-566070/4; price \$10.00. (Manual sequence only)

HANDEL: Organ Concerto No. 4 in F major, Op. 4, No. 4 — Allegro only & Saul — Largo in C major (both arr. organ solo). Alfred Sittard (organ of St. Michael's, Hamburg). 12" imported record (2 sides), No. PD-66554; price \$2.00.

MOZART: Concerto in C major, K. 299, for Flute, Harp & Orchestra. Marcel Moyse (flute), Lily Laskine (harp) & Orchestra conducted by Piero Coppola. Three 12" imported records (6 sides), Nos. G-C2387/9; price \$6.00. (Also available in automatic sequence)

PUCCINI: La Tosca — E lucevan le stelle & BOITO: Mefistofele — Giunto sul passo estremo. Giovanni Malipiero (tenor in Italian) & EIAR Orchestra. 12" imported record (2 sides), No. P-DPX29; price \$2.10.

VICTOR HERITAGE SERIES

For its second release in its Heritage Series Victor has announced the following 12" records, pressed on unbreakable vinylite. They are priced at \$3.67 each.

V-15-1005: PASQUALE AMATO: VERDI: I Due Foscari — O vecchio cor che batti & FRANCHETTI: Germania — Ferito Prigionier (Sung in Italian) (Recorded 1913)

V-15-1006: CELESTINA BONINSEGNA: VERDI: Aida — O cieli azzuri & Un Ballo in Maschera — Ma dall' arido stelo divulsa. (Sung in Italian). (Recorded 1910 & 1906)

V-15-1007: POL PLONCON: MOZART — Die Zauberflöte — No. 10, O Isis und Osiris (sung in Italian) & FERRARI: La Lazzarone & GEORGES: Le Filibustier. (Sung in French). (Recorded 1905).

V-15-1008: JEANNE GERVILLE-REACHE: BIZET: Carmen — Habanera & MASSE: Paul et Virginie — Chanson du Tigre. (Sung in French). (Recorded 1910 & 1911).

V-15-1009: JOHN McCORMACK & LUCREZIA BORI: VERDI: La Traviata — Parigi o cara & McCORMACK & MARIO SAMMARCO: PUCCHINI: La Bohème — Ah! Mimi, tu più non torni. (Sung in Italian). (Recorded in 1914 & 1910).

These historical recordings are still about the finest versions of some of the selections presented. In many cases, they represent the only recordings of the arias available at the present time. In many cases, the records have not been available for over twenty or more years. In any event, these collector's items are outstanding restorations to the Victor catalogue. The vinylite pressings are of excellent quality.

POPULAR ALBUMS

FINIAN'S RAINBOW — Selections. Ella Logan, Donald Brook & David Wayne with other members of the original cast with Orchestra and Chorus conducted by Ray Charles. Six 10" records (12 sides) in Set CM-686†; price complete with album \$5.78.

Contents: Overture, This Time of Year, How are Things in Glocca Morra, If This isn't Love, Look to the Rainbow, Old Devil Moon, Something Sort of Grandish, Necessity, When the Idle Poor become the Idle Rich, The Begat, When I'm not near the Girl I Love, That Great Come and Get it Day.

BRIGADOON — Selections. David Brooks, Marion Bell, Pamela Britton, Lee Sullivan (from the original cast) with Orchestra and Chorus conducted by Franz Allers. Five 10" records (10 sides) in Set V-P178; price \$4.99.

Contents: Overture, Once in the Highlands, Brigadoon, Down on MacConnachy Square, Waiting for My Dearie, I'll Go Home with Bonnie Jean, The Heather on the Hill, Come to Me, Bend to Me, Almost Like Being in Love; There But for You I Go, My Mother's Wedding Day, From This Day On.

BEATRICE KAY SINGS. Beatrice Kay (vocal) with the Elm City Four & Orchestra conducted by Paul Baron. Four 10" records (8 sides) in Set C-C115; price complete with album \$3.57.

Contents: The Curse of an Aching Heart; The Golden Links are Broken; If I Was a Millionaire; Saloon; I'm the Lonesomest Gal in Town; Tatters; And Yet I Know.

GYPSY SONGS OF OLD RUSSIA. Adia Kuznetzoff (baritone in Russian) & Gleb Yellin Orchestra. Three 10" records (6 sides) in Set DISC-731; price complete with album \$3.15.

Contents: Why Worry; Do Not Torment Me; My Heart; Where Are You, My Gypsy; Those Beautiful Dark Eyes; Good Bye.

JAZZ MOODS. Mary Lou Williams & James P. Johnson (pianos) & Coleman Hawkins (tenor sax), with instrumental ensemble. Two 12" records (4 sides) in Set ASCH-S456; price complete with album \$3.52.

Contents: Boogie Woogie Study & Impressions. James P. Johnson (piano solo). Song in My Soul & This and That. Mary Lou Williams (piano). Coleman Hawkins (tenor sax), Joe Evans (alto sax), Bill Coleman (trumpet), Eddie Robinson (bass), Densil Best (drums), Claude Greene (clarinet).

SONGS OF DEVOTION, Vol. I. Fred Waring and his Pennsylvanians. Four 10" records (8 sides) in Set D-A489; price complete with album \$3.94.

Contents: Ave Maria (Bach-Gounod); Now the Day is Over; Holy, Holy, Holy; This is My Father's World; Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen; Sometimes I Feel like a Motherless Child; Onward Christian Soldiers; Battle Hymn of the Republic.

HI, LO, JACK AND THE "DAME." Vocals with Cedric Wallace Quartet. Three 10" records (6 sides), in Set INT-26; price complete with album \$3.15.

Contents: Pig Foot Pete; What a Difference a Day Makes; Sweet Georgia Brown; Blue Skies; Tea for Two; Molly Malone.

COME-ALL-YE'S. Pat Harrington (vocal) & Instrumental Accompaniment. Four 10" records (8 sides) in Set D-A535; price complete with album \$3.94.

Contents: Erin Go Bragh; Kitty of Coleraine; Never Take the Horseshoe from the Door; Branigan's Pup; Tread on the Tail of Me Coat; Irish Jubilee; McSorley's Two Beautiful Twins; Finnigan's Ball.

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